



**GRANT RECIPIENT**  
IDNR DIVISION OF STATE  
PARKS AND RESERVOIRS

**YEAR**  
2008

**COUNTY**  
PORTER

**CATEGORY**  
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

**GRANT AWARD**  
\$7,200

**LOCAL SHARE**  
\$7,200



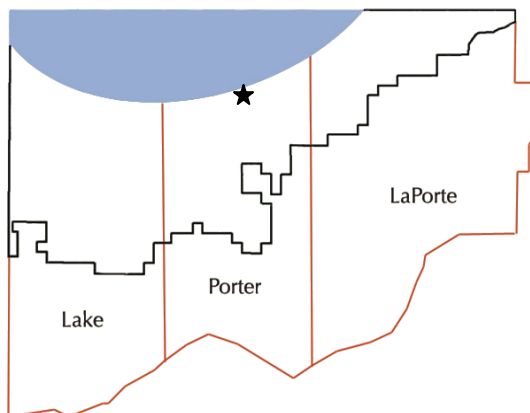
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## Indiana Dunes State Park Diversity Restoration

As part of the DNR planning process, Indiana Dunes State Park created a natural resource management plan extending from 2005- 2010. The purpose of this grant project was to help implement the plan by focusing on the eradication of herbaceous and woody invasive species in the park. Invasive species pose a great threat to the integrity of the natural ecosystem by outcompeting native plants for space and energy. Such species include oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculata*), bush honeysuckles (*Lonicera* spp.), Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*), privet (*Ligustrum* spp.), and garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*).

This project also included mapping invasive populations, progress measurement/documentation, and fire break construction for protection of infrastructure. Additionally, two 90-day stewardship positions were created to ensure proper attention was given to project implementation. As a result, the park now has fewer invasive plants and the threat of spreading to other areas has been diminished.



**RESULT:** Reduced invasive plant species in 45-acres in Indiana Dunes State Park.